

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A fluorescent protein, as shown in SEQ ID NO: 4, derived from a Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP) or ~~any~~ a functional GFP analogue, wherein the amino acid in position 1 preceding the chromophore has been substituted by an aliphatic amino acid, and wherein the Glutamic acid in position 222 has been substituted by an amino acid selected from the group consisting of G, A, V, L and I.

2. (Previously Presented) A fluorescent protein according to claim 1, wherein the chromophore is in position 65-67 of the predicted primary amino acid sequence of GFP as shown in SEQ ID NO: 4.

3. (Original) A fluorescent protein according to claim 1 or 2, said protein being derived from *Aequoria victoria* or *Renilla*.

4. (Original) A fluorescent protein according to claim 1, wherein the amino acid F in position 64 of the GFP has been substituted by an aliphatic amino acid.

5. (Original) A fluorescent protein according claim 1, wherein the amino acid F in position 64 of the GFP has been substituted by an amino acid selected from the group consisting of L, I, V, A and G.

6. (Original) A fluorescent protein according to claim 1, wherein the amino acid F in position 64 of the GFP has been substituted by L.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) A fluorescent protein according to claim 1, wherein the amino acid E in position 222 of the GFP has been substituted by G.

9. (Original) A fluorescent protein according to claim 1 having the amino acid sequence disclosed in SEQ ID NO: 4.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Original) A fusion compound comprising a fluorescent protein (GFP) according to claim 1, wherein the GFP is linked to a polypeptide.

12. (Previously Presented) A fusion compound according to claim 11, wherein the polypeptide is a kinase or a cytoskeletal element.

13-19. (Cancelled).

20. (Previously Presented) A fusion compound according to claim 12, wherein the polypeptide is the catalytic subunit of protein kinase A, protein kinase C, or Erk1.

21. (Previously Presented) A fluorescent protein according to claim 1, wherein the amino acid E in position 222 of the GFP has been substituted by an amino acid selected from the group consisting of A, V, L and I.